

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4804
ANSWERED ON:23.05.2006
IMPORT DUTY ON INDUSTRIAL GOODS
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether pressure is mounting on India to bind import duty on industrial goods at around 16%;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (c): In the WTO NAMA negotiations the developed countries are asking the developing countries to accept a Swiss formula with a coefficient of 15.

India has consistently taken the position that developing countries need policy space for the development of its growing industrial sector.

Further, the Doha mandate provides that developing countries shall offer less than full reciprocity in reduction commitments in addition to certain flexibilities to offer no formula reductions or less than formula reductions in terms of paragraph 8 of the July Framework Agreement. India is insisting on the full implementation of these special and differential provisions.